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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313 or via facsimile on the date indicated below.

10/13/2004
Date

Kevin L. Daffer

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED
EXAMINATION TRANSMITTAL (RCE)

Subsection(b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	10/84,888 - 10-014-888
Filing Date	02/13/2002
First Named Inventor	Benjamin C.E. Schwarz
Group Art Unit	1765
Examiner Name	Duy Vu Nguyen Deo
Atty Docket Number	5298-06800

Title	REDUCING DEFECT FORMATION WITHIN AN ETCHED SEMICONDUCTOR TOPOGRAPHY
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This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of an RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 18, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
 - a. ☒ Previously submitted
 - i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on 09/16/2004.
 - ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____.
 - iii. ☐ Other _____
 - b. ☐ Enclosed
 - i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
 - ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. ☐ Other _____
2. Miscellaneous
 - a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(f) required)
 - b. ☐ Other _____
3. Fees (The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed)
 - a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 03-2769/5298-06900.
 - i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
 - ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. ☐ Other _____
 - b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.
 - c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2035 enclosed)

Respectfully submitted,

October 13, 2004
Date

Kevin L. Daffer, Reg. No. 34,146
Attorney for Applicant(s)
CONLEY ROSE, P.C.
P.O. Box 684908
Austin, TX 78768-4908
(512) 476-1400

Duration How Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. This time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.